

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 DRC-01 RSC-01 /024 W

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P R 080940Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3161

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

S E C R E T TAIPEI 6220

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TW, RP, CH

SUBJECT: ROC AMBASSADOR SHEN'S APPOINTMENT WITH DEPUTY
SECRETARY INGERSOLL

REF: A. SECSTATE 211449 (NOTAL)

B. TAIPEI 6016 (NOTAL)

C. MANILA 115461

D. TAIPEI 3195

1. YESTERDAY FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN REFERRED TO VISIT TO
DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL WHICH ROC AMBASSADOR SHEN SCHEDULED
TO MAKE MORNING OCTOBER 9. FOREIGN MINISTER UNDERSTOOD THIS
CALL PROPOSED BY DEPARTMENT IN RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR SHEN'S
REQUEST TO CALL ON PRESIDENT FORD. FOREIGN MINISTER TOLD
ME PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO HAD WISHED AMBASSADOR SHEN TO ESTABLISH
CONTACT WITH PRESIDENT (SEE REF B) BUT CHINESE UNDERSTAND
UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES OF MRS. FORD'S ILLNESS ETC. APPOINTMENT
NOT POSSIBLE AT THIS TIME.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER, ON PRIME MINISTER'S REQUEST, INFORMED
ME IN GENERAL TERMS OF CONTENTS OF MESSAGE FOR PRESIDENT
WHICH AMBASSADOR SHEN WILL DELIVER TO DEPUTY SECRETARY:
PREMIER WANTS TO CONVEY HIS WARM WISHES FOR PRESIDENT'S
SUCCESS, TO SAY THAT ROC WILL DO ITS UTMOST TO TAKE CARE
OF ITS OWN PROBLEMS AND CONTINUE TO INCREASE ITS SELF-
RELIANCE AND HAS NO REQUESTS TO MAKE, AND PREMIER EXPRESSES

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HIS PLEASURE AT PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT OF RESOLVE TO STAND BY

FRIENDS AND HONOR COMMITMENTS.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER SAID AMBASSADOR SHEN WILL PROBABLY ALSO RAISE PHILIPPINE QUESTION WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY AND PROPOSE THAT IN MUTUAL INTEREST, I.E., US, ROC AND PHILIPPINES, US SEEK TO DISSUADE GOP FROM ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PRC. FOREIGN MINISTER REFLECTED FAIRLY INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF PRESIDENT MARCOS' MEETING REPORTED REF C AND NOTED THAT AT SAME TIME GOP PREPARING FOR OPENING OF DISCUSSIONS IN PEKING IT WILL ALSO BE CONSULTING WITH ASEAN PARTNERS AND USG. GROC HOPES USG CAN USE OPPORTUNITY THIS WILL PROVIDE TO UNDERLINE DAMAGE WHICH WOULD BE DONE TO REGION'S SECURITY FRAMEWORK BY FILIPINO ACTION. FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN'S ARGUMENTS COVERED SAME GROUND CHINESE HAVE COVERED BEFORE ON THIS ISSUE (REF D AND LETTERS OF AUGUST 12 AND 21 TO HUMMEL).

4. I RECALLED PREVIOUS CONVERSATION ON THIS QUESTION, BOTH HERE AND IN WASHINGTON AND SAID THAT FOR REASONS WE HAVE GIVEN BEFORE WE DO NOT FEEL WE SHOULD TRY TO DISSUADE FILIPINOS FROM EVENTUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PRC AND BELIEVE EFFORTS ON OUR PART TO DO SO MIGHT HAVE OPPOSITE EFFECT. AFTER SOME FURTHER DISCUSSION AND MAKING CLEAR TO FOREIGN MINISTER THAT ALL INDICATIONS ARE THAT GOP WILL SOONER OR LATER TAKE THIS STEP (WHICH HE DID NOT DISPUTE), I ASKED WHETHER GROC IN THE FACE OF SUCH ACTION WOULD BE ABLE TO WORK OUT FORM OF RELATIONS WITH GOP WHICH COULD PROTECT ECONOMIC INTERESTS, CONTINUING CONTACT WITH CHINESE COMMUNITY IN PHILIPPINES AND OTHER ROC INTERESTS IN THE PHILIPPINES. AS IN PAST, FOREIGN MINISTER UNWILLING TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER BUT WAS NOT AS CATEGORICAL AS FORMERLY IN REJECTING POSSIBILITY OF SOME RELATIONSHIP BEING WORKED OUT.

5. I ALSO REFERRED TO RECENTLY APPOINTED PHILIPPINE AMBASSADOR TO ROC, GENERAL LAPUS, AND ASKED WHAT WORD FOREIGN MINISTER HAD ABOUT HIS ARRIVAL PLANS. SHEN SAID OCTOBER 12 IS POSSIBLE DATE BUT HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER LAPUS WAS SURELY COMING AND IF SO, WHETHER IT WAS TO TAKE UP HIS DUTIES OR TO INFORM CHINESE ABOUT GOP PLANS VIS-A-VIS PRC.

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6. MANILA'S 12014 JUST RECEIVED. IF LAPUS ARRIVES AND SEEKS ME OUT MY ONLY SUGGESTION WOULD BE (IF DEPARTMENT CONCURS) THAT HE TRY TO MOVE GROC TO THINK ABOUT POSSIBLE FORMULA FOR RELATIONS WITH GOP BELOW DIPLOMATIC LEVEL, ASSUMING GOP INTENDS ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PRC. UNGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COLLECTIVE SECURITY, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TAIPEI06220
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740285-0057
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741062/aaaacaxq.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: A. SECSTATE 211449 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUL 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <11 MAR 2003 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROC AMBASSADOR SHEN'S APPOINTMENT WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL
TAGS: PFOR, TW, RP, CH, US, (SHEN), (INGERSOLL, ROBERT S)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005